

Kadafi endorses 'cause' terrorism

Colombo, Sri Lanka (AP)—Muammar el. Kadafi, the Libyan leader, said yesterday that he supports terrorism equated with "the struggle of a people for independence, for a just cause," but denied he favors kidnaping and robbery.

He said such criminal terrorist acts are severely punished in Libya.

Addressing the fifth non-aligned summit conference, Colonel Kadafi publicly replied for the first time to some published accusations attributed to Western diplomatic sources that he is financing international terrorism.

The Libyan blamed the accusations on "imperialism, international Zionism and racialism."

"If the struggle of the people of Zimbabwe [Rhodesia] is terrorism, then we support this terrorism," Colonel Kadafi said, a reference to black nationalist guerrillas fighting the white minority regime in Salisbury.

"In this case, terrorism has another meaning, another connotation. In this case, terrorism means the struggle of a people for independence, it is the support of a just cause."

"If the Palestinian people who have been expelled from their territory in 1948, if their struggle is terrorism, then we accept this accusation and it is an honor to us because we support oppressed and colonized people for the restoration of their land and independence and sovereignty."

Wearing a black fez, flowing robe and sunglasses, Colonel Kadafi dealt at length with the allegations that he is instigating terrorism, and he appealed to the 85-nation conference for understanding of his position.

"The third world must not be misled with regard to the

meaning of terrorism in order to make us give up our struggle against imperialism and colonialism," he said.

"Zionists are terrorists," he said. "It is they who attack schools in the Middle East. They attack properties. This is terrorism, the terrorists over the city of Cairo in their planes when they killed people and workers in factories. This is terrorism."

"The United States wishes to terrorize the Libyan people because they support the rights and causes of the small people of the world," he said. "Zionism wishes to terrorize those who struggle against it."

Colonel Kadafi said imperialist forces had wrongly accused "African militants against apartheid and racialism" of being terrorists.

Instead, he said: "Those who occupy Namibia [South-West Africa], South Africa, Zimbabwe, these are the real terrorists of the world."

Colonel Kadafi, who spoke for an hour without notes or a prepared text, also called on the nonaligned conference to support Libya's proposal for removing the veto right of the major powers on the United Nations Security Council.

"The veto is an injustice and an aggression and an attack against the independence and free will of the peoples of the world," he said.

Denouncing the United States veto of Angola's application for U.N. membership, the Libyan asked: "Is the independence of Angola a merchandise, a commodity that can be bought and sold, is it something the United States can object to and deny the sacrifices, the struggles of the people of Angola for long and difficult years?"

At a news conference later, Colonel Kadafi denied he was aiding air piracy by his willingness to let hijacked airplanes land in Libya.

He said Libya had permitted such landings for humanitarian reasons and that on at least two occasions concerned governments—Japan and Malaysia—had expressed their thanks to him for helping obtain the release of hostages without harm.

"If a plane is going to explode in the skies, we have to receive it," he said. "It is a purely humanitarian purpose on our part."

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